

By Senator Wright

14-02926-21

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Senate Resolution

A resolution thanking the men and women of the Florida National Guard for their service and recognizing March 23, 2021, as "Florida National Guard Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, as the military arm of the Governor and the people of the State of Florida, the Florida National Guard stands ready in times of crisis or emergency to immediately respond to a call from the Governor, and

WHEREAS, the Florida National Guard traces its lineage back 456 years to 1565 when the first muster of a civilian militia took place in St. Augustine, making Florida's militia the oldest in the nation, and

WHEREAS, today's Florida National Guard stands strong with approximately 12,000 members, and

WHEREAS, the men and women of the Florida National Guard and their families willingly make sacrifices when pandemics, hurricanes, fires, floods, and other natural disasters occur, serving domestically and around the world in contingency operations, and

WHEREAS, without reservation, more than 22,000 men and women of the Florida National Guard have answered the call to federal active duty in the years since the September 11, 2001, attack on our nation, serving with distinction and honor during Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Operation Observant Compass, which have taken them far from their families and friends as they ensure that we are safe at home, and

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30 WHEREAS, the employers of the men and women of the Florida  
31 National Guard have made significant sacrifices in the conduct  
32 of their businesses during the deployment of servicemembers,  
33 ensuring that jobs await them when they return home from their  
34 service, and

35 WHEREAS, the men and women of the Florida National Guard  
36 engage in hundreds of community service projects across the  
37 state while preparing for their federal duty, protecting the  
38 residents of this state during times of crisis or emergency, and  
39 contributing to local programs that add to the quality of life  
40 in the United States and in this state, NOW, THEREFORE,

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42 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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44 That the men and women of the Florida National Guard are  
45 thanked for their service and that March 23, 2021, is recognized  
46 as "Florida National Guard Day" in Florida.